

Crowmarsh News

Issue 464

May 2017

The *Crowmarsh News* is a self-funded publication, and we regret that we are unable to accept unpaid advertising, even from local businesses and societies.

We welcome material for inclusion but do not necessarily endorse the views of contributors. We reserve the right to refuse material or to shorten contributions as may be appropriate. Editorial decisions are final.

ADVERTISING RATES

The *Crowmarsh News* is currently distributed to over 700 households in Crowmarsh Gifford, North Stoke and Mongewell.

Our rates for a one-eighth page display advertisement (nominal 9cm wide x 7cm tall) are:

1 month – £7.50
3 months – £21.00
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Leaflet distribution

For a single sheet loose insert in the *Crowmarsh News* (size up to A4), our current rate is £25.00 for a single month. Advertisers must supply their own inserts (740 copies, please).

Cheques should be made payable to Crowmarsh News Association.

The Crowmarsh News Team

The *Crowmarsh News* is run by the Crowmarsh News Association, a group of local volunteers.

Editorial and Layout: James and Toni Taylor

Editorial support: John Griffin, Amanda Maher,
Edwina Johnson

What's On listings: Julian Park

Advertising: Pat Shields

Distribution: Frank Sadler and Team

Next month's issue

All new advertisements and all copy for the June issue of *Crowmarsh News* must reach us before our **20th May deadline**.

For all items of news, articles or correspondence, please e-mail

crowmarsh.editor@gmail.com

or deliver to the Editor at 57 The Street.

For all advertising, please contact

crowmarshadvertisers@gmail.com

or deliver to The Old School, Benson Lane.

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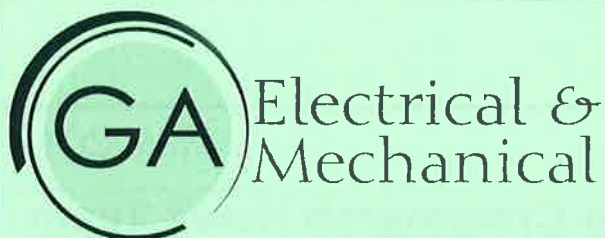


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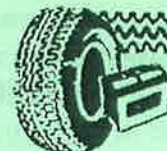
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Developments in Crowmarsh – have your say!

Two things to do – one urgent, one longer term:

1. Have your say on the South Oxfordshire Local Plan – consultation until 5pm on 17th May - please comment on the plan documents, especially the sites proposed for housing in Crowmarsh Gifford (see page 3).
2. Sign up to help with the Crowmarsh Neighbourhood Development Plan, which will set out how we want our community to develop long-term, including environment, housing, infrastructure and facilities. We will need all sorts of help (see page 17).

South Oxfordshire Local Plan – Consultation until 17th May

South Oxfordshire District Council is developing a new Local Plan that will shape the future of our district up to 2033. It identifies where housing, retail and employment land should be located and the infrastructure required to support this growth, such as roads, schools, health services and sewerage. The policies in the plan will help make decisions on future planning applications.

SODC has included two sites for housing in Crowmarsh Gifford (see the parish council planning notes) which together would mean 250 new houses. Look at pages 66 and 67 in the main document.

The plan is out for public consultation until 5pm on Wednesday 17th May – comment on the plan documents at www.southoxon.gov.uk/localplan (register with your name and address). Give reasons for your comments.

Hard copies of the Local Plan, supporting documents and comment forms are available during opening hours at the SODC office (address below) and in Benson and Wallingford libraries.

There are several ways in which you can

submit your comments:

- participate in the online survey (see above)
- download a comment form (PDF) or pick one up from the locations above and either:
 - email it to planning.policy@southoxon.gov.uk or
 - post it to SODC Planning Policy, 135 Eastern Avenue, Milton Park, Abingdon, OX14 4SB
- write to the Council by post or email using the above addresses.

For more information, email planning.policy@southoxon.gov.uk or call 01235 422600.

SODC require your name and address for comments to be accepted. Your name and comments will be made available for public viewing, so these cannot be treated as confidential. Deadline 5pm on Wednesday 17th May.

Oxfordshire County Council elections

Oxfordshire County Council provides many of the important services in your community, such as Fire and Rescue, looking after vulnerable children and adults, libraries, roads, waste disposal, school nurses and tackling rogue traders, to name just a few.

The county council elections on Thursday 4th May are your opportunity to directly influence how these services are run in your area. The councillor elected in your area will be representing you and your community, taking important decisions that affect where you live. They will also be the person you get in touch with if you want to improve services over the next few years.

You can find the full list of candidates standing in your area and your nearest polling station at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/elections

The elections take place on Thursday 4th May from 7am to 10pm. The election count takes place on Friday 5th May in Abingdon.

If you care about local services, don't forget to vote and remind your friends and family too!

Crowmarsh Gifford School

We hope you and your families all had a wonderful Easter and are looking forward to the nearing summer. If the beautiful weather is a sign of what is to come, we are in for a treat.

We have lots in store for us over the next term. Our children will have a visit once again from the Science Dome, an annual event provided by our PTA, where all of our children enjoy a fascinating insight into space. The week after SATs we will be holding another Purple Learning Week - focusing on all the key traits and skills we need to be the best learners we can be. These are skills we focus on every day, but during Purple Learning Week, we focus on key themes and collaborative projects to further embed this learning philosophy.

During this week, we will be welcoming Diana Pardoe back in to talk to our children and parents. Keep an eye on our calendar for when she is talking to parents and if you are parents of a child starting with us in Reception, we would welcome you to attend. Or if you are just interested in what Purple Learning is all about, we would love to share this with you.

Over the Easter break we have had a proper gardening area created so our children can begin growing their own fruits, vegetables and plants. If you have an interest in gardening and would like to come and volunteer to help us tend our new raised beds, please get in touch. We would welcome any help as we get this project started. Let's hope our fence definitely keeps our chickens away!

During the next few weeks we will be preparing for our summer fete and the Thames Run and hope that we will see you and your families there. There will be many activities to take part in, stalls to visit and delicious food to enjoy on our field. You can even come and enjoy a Maypole dance!

Please visit our school website and see what our children are up to each week. You can read our class blogs, the headteacher's blog or just visit our calendar to see if there are any events you are able to attend. We also have a new and separate sport's section on our web-

site where you can keep updated on all of our sporting achievements both in and out of school.

Until next time...

Mrs Barton
Headteacher

Safe and Well Visits

Did you know that Oxfordshire County Council's Fire and Rescue Service offer free Safe and Well Visits? Our firefighters will visit you at home to see what they can do to help you reduce the risk of fire.

The visit combines a Home Safety Check to help reduce the risk of fire in your home, such as checking and fitting smoke alarms and helping you make a fire escape plan.

During the visit firefighters can provide advice to reduce any immediate risk from falls, fire, flood or power cuts. They can also advise on health and crime prevention.

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Special Thanks

...from your regular Editors James and Toni to the Reserve Team (John Griffin, Amanda Maher and Edwina Johnson) who put your *Crowmarsh News* together last month. Their efforts enabled us to take some time out to help our older son celebrate his 16th birthday.

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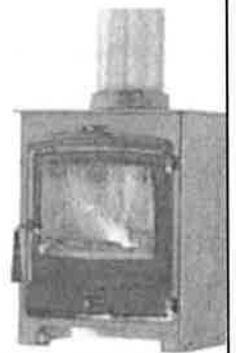
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Crowmarsh's Summer Migration

Now that the warmer weather is here how nice it is to sit in our gardens and listen to the sound of the birds or the roar of 500cc motorcycles on their migration to their grazing grounds at Berinsfield.

Sundays seems to be their favourite day, and the herd can be several hundred strong. If you carefully approach these grazing herds you will see that most have black coats, but there are a few with black and red coats and, if you are lucky, you may see the very rare one with a black and blue coat.

While grazing they stand on their hind legs, like humans, or eat sitting down. So far David Attenborough has not visited the grazing grounds, but it's only a matter of time before we'll see him on our screens talking in hushed tones to one of these magnificent creatures.

At the end of the day we are treated again to the roar of these machines as they return to their dens. On particularly noisy days, one can be forgiven if one yearns for the icy roads of winter.

Cream Tea in a Box

As in previous years, Winifred Lay is organising the Action Medical Research for Children Cream Tea in a Box. For 65 years, Action Medical Research has helped pioneer treatments and ways to prevent disease that have benefited millions of people in the UK and worldwide.

Action Medical Research have helped to beat polio in the UK, develop ultrasound, fight meningitis and prevent stillbirths as well as helping children facing lifetime challenges caused by disabilities such as cerebral palsy and Down's syndrome, DHD and Tourette syndrome.

The boxes, costing £6 each contain two delicious scones, clotted cream, strawberry preserve and a Yorkshire teabag, together with serviette and knife. They will be delivered to Winifred at 58 The Street, Crowmarsh Gifford on Thursday 22nd June between 11am and 2pm. Your order is required by Friday 2nd June please. Call Winifred on 839390.

If you would like to learn more about the work of Action Medical Research, Winifred has a selection of leaflets; or take a look at their website, www.action.org.uk.

Pictures, logos and display ads for the Crowmarsh News...

...are best in .jpg or .pdf format.

Crowmarsh Annual Parish Meeting – 18th May 2017

This year's annual meeting for all electors will be held at Crowmarsh Gifford Primary School on Thursday 18th May at 7.30pm. All residents are very welcome to come and air your views.

The purpose of the meeting is for the Parish Council to explain what it has been doing over the last year and to enable you to have your say on anything you consider is important to the people of the Parish.

We will have brief reports from the Parish Council, our county and district councillors, the police, Thames Water and others.

A key topic for discussion will be the Neighbourhood Plan for the parish and a call for people to get involved. This was first discussed at our annual meeting in 2014.

Andrew Johnson will give a presentation on the playground project.

Questions, suggestions and comments on anything to do with Crowmarsh are welcomed – this is the whole purpose of the meeting. So do come along on 18th May. We will provide light refreshments.

**John Griffin,
Chairman,
Crowmarsh Parish Council**

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Police and Crime Plan 2017 to 2021

This new Plan consists of five broad strategic priorities which are:

1. Vulnerability – Managing demand on services through working together with a particular focus on mental health, elder abuse, hidden abuse, and the criminal justice experience for victims of domestic and sexual abuse.
2. Prevention and Early Intervention – Improving safeguarding in both the physical space and virtual space including tackling cyber crime, road safety, peer on peer abuse, hate crime and female genital mutilation (FGM).
3. Reducing Re-offending – Targeting and managing harm and risk with a focus on substance misuse, violence involving weapons and offender management including perpetrators of domestic abuse.
4. Serious Organised Crime and Terrorism – Improving the local response including increased public awareness, promoting a 'dare to share' culture, and preventing violent extremism and the exploitation of vulnerable people.
5. Police Ethics and Reform – Increasing the pace of change with a focus on improved support for victims, accelerated uptake of new technology, and improving the perceptions of police among young people.

The priorities and aims in the Plan will be addressed in greater detail through the delivery plans of Thames Valley Police, the Office of the PCC and other partner service delivery plans, particularly Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs).

The plan was developed using a broad range of information including the evaluation of research documents, analysis of crime trends, horizon scanning to identify future trends and consultation with partners including the police and local authorities.

It was also informed by the views of the nearly

5000 residents of Thames Valley, including over 1000 young people, who took part in the PCC's policing and crime survey in 2016.

Proposed New Play Area and Outdoor Gym in the Recreation Ground

Thank you to everyone who has already signed the lists, either at the school, the village shop or online, regarding their views on this subject. We have had a good response to date.

A group of interested local residents has met recently to discuss ideas and potential designs for this suggested improvement, bearing in mind the responses that we have had so far. We are keen to know what things children like most in a play area.

If you haven't already done so, there is still time to add your name and ideas online at: <http://crowmarshgifford.org.uk/>

Andrew Johnson

IMPORTANT: Road Closures on Sunday 16th July

Due to a rolling road closure programme on 16th July relating to the National Cycle Race, could anyone with urgent specifically timed access needs across Wallingford Bridge / along Nosworthy Way / the A4074 / the Stokes roads on this day please let the Crowmarsh Gifford Parish Clerk know in advance.

Rolling road closures will only be in place for a short time as the main Race passes during each lap, and Marshals will be provided to organise access along the routes – but it would help if they could be informed in advance of any really urgent needs. More information will be available and circulated nearer the time.

Contact: crowmarshparishclerk@gmail.com

Short Mat Bowls

takes place at the Pavilion on Tuesdays at 7pm and on Thursdays at 2pm. For more information, please call 837518.

Temporary Road Closure – Nettlebed, A4130 High Street

In the interests of public safety it will be necessary for Oxfordshire County Council to close the road as detailed above in order to facilitate carriageway maintenance works.

The closure will be on 7 May for one day, from 0700hrs to 1900hrs.

Access will be maintained for emergency service vehicles and for those frontages within the closure area, subject to the progress of the works and liaison with the works supervisor.

Further information regarding the works is available from Bob Burgess, OCC Highways & Transport on 0345 310 11 11.

Wallingford Country Market

Wallingford Country Market is held each Friday in the Regal Centre between 8.30am and 12 noon.

On Friday 30th June, we will be having 'The Great Biscuit Bake', to include the Windsor Collection (with tasting).

All our usual Home-baked, Home-grown, and Home-crafted items will be on sale, as well as Preserves, Local Honey and Eggs. Do come and visit us soon.

If you are interested in joining our friendly team of producers, why not visit us one Friday morning and speak with the Market Manager or telephone 681596.

Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall is ideal for children's parties ...

To book the Hall, call Chris Strange on
07711 904252,
or e-mail cvhbookings@gmail.com.

Get running fit for the Thames Run 2017

This year the Thames Run are linking up with RunWallingford running club who organise beginners' running courses led by a qualified coach, with the aim to be ready to compete in the Thames Run in May.

RunWallingford running club hold training sessions every Wednesday evening at 6:50pm at Wallingford School; it is a mixed ability group and everyone is welcome. Contact Ian Robinson at RunWallingford on 07970807108 or follow the RunWallingford Facebook page.

We are organising for the 10th year a 10k run and for the 3rd year a 5k run on Sunday 21st May which attracts over 400 runners, their families and friends from the local area as well as from across Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Bucks. This year we have lowered the 5k age to 14 years old to encourage more young people to take part.

The Thames Run is a multi-terrain route along the Thames Path, local footpaths and through our historic market town. The 5k event runners complete one circuit of the route and those on the 10k route run two circuits.

The Wallingford 5k and 10k Thames Run is run by volunteers to raise money for two local Oxfordshire charities. This year we are proud to support Crowmarsh Gifford Primary School PTA and Style Acre, a charity committed to supporting the needs of people with learning disabilities in our community.

The start and finish point for this event is Crowmarsh Gifford Primary School. Refreshments and family entertainment will be available at the end of the race for all to enjoy.

Entries are open; you can register on our website www.thamesrun.co.uk and you can follow us on our Facebook page Wallingford Thames Run 10k.

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St Mary Magdalene's Church Crowmarsh Gifford

Team Vicar: The Rev'd Kevin Beer
34 Thames Mead
Crowmarsh Gifford. OX10 8EY
Tel: 01491 599873

Email: teamvicar@wallingfordcofe.org.uk
Churchwardens:

Margaret Foster, tel: 836076
Eva Thompson, tel: 201675

Services for May

Sunday 7th	11am	Parish Communion
	4pm	Evening Prayer at Newnham Murren
Sunday 14th	11am	Family Service
Sunday 21st	10am	Rogation Sunday Team Service at Highland Farm, High Road, Brightwell-cum-Sotwell, OX10 0QX
Thursday 25th	8pm	Ascension Day Communion Service
Sunday 28th	11am	Family Communion
Every Friday 9am: Morning Prayer		Every Sunday 6pm (except 7th May - see above): Evening Prayer (BCP)

The highlight for Christians at the end of the month of May is Ascension Day, on 25th May, coming 40 days after Easter. This year, we will be celebrating with a special Communion service at St Mary Magdalene's at 8pm, to which all are welcome. In many countries, this is a significant event observed with a Bank Holiday, but it tends to go past unnoticed in this country, which is a shame. The Ascension is a central tenet of our faith – as the Apostles' Creed says: "He [Jesus] ascended into Heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty". The significance of that is that right now, your prayers and mine can be heard at the throne of grace as Jesus "intercedes for us" (Romans 8:34).

Prayers can also be turned into action... The third week of May also brings Christian Aid Week (14th – 20th May) including the house to house collection - so don't be surprised if I or another volunteer come knocking at your door! This is the 60th Anniversary of Christian Aid Week, which was originally set up to support the many European refugees still in camps 12 years after the Second World War. Sadly, according to a UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) report last year, the number of displaced people is at its highest ever - the total at the end of 2015 reached 65.3 million, or 1 out of every 113 people on Earth - thus surpassing

even post-WW2 numbers, when the world was struggling to come to terms with the most devastating event in history.

The decision to leave home and country as a refugee is only ever taken out of desperation for survival. It's better to die in a refugee camp than to die in a war – to risk your children's lives in a plastic dinghy and to leave everything you know behind. When the alternative is terror, bombs and bullets, almost anything is better. This is the terrible choice facing tens of millions of people worldwide - fleeing conflict and disaster, making dangerous journeys in search of safety. Indeed, the only thing that a refugee keeps is their humanity, but we are in danger of losing ours if we ignore their situation.

As the Christian Aid slogan says: "We've been there for refugees since 1945. We won't turn our backs now."

If anyone would like to make a donation and we don't get round to your street to collect your envelope, then please post your donation through the Vicarage door (34 Thamesmead) or make a donation online via www.christianaid.org.uk/christian-aid-week

Envelopes can also be picked up from the church which is open every day.



A Night at the Museum

Wallingford Museum will have a special one-off evening opening at half price (Adults £2.50, Children free as usual), on Friday 19th May (6pm to 9pm).

We are offering a chance to see our current exhibitions and also take a look 'behind the scenes' at a time when we are usually closed.

You can also find out more about how the museum is run and what opportunities there are to join the team of volunteers!

For more information, please visit www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk



The Round Mounds project

From Medieval Mottes to Prehistoric Round Mounds

Dr Jim Leary will talk at the Wallingford Historical & Archaeological Society (TWHAS) about the project 'Extending Histories: From Medieval Mottes to Prehistoric Round Mounds' which is funded by the Leverhulme Trust.

His talk will discuss the results from this project, which aims to discover the history of monumental mounds in the English landscape. The project brings together evidence from detailed analytical earthwork survey, geoarchaeological techniques and a comprehensive dating programme to determine the date of construction, sequence of development and environmental context of 20 castle mottes from across England.

Late Neolithic round mounds, such as Silbury Hill near Avebury, are among the rarest and least well understood monuments in Britain. Recent archaeological work at the medieval Marlborough Castle motte, Wiltshire, however, has shown it to be a reused Neolithic round mound, comparable in date to Silbury Hill. Could prehistoric round mounds therefore be

more numerous and widespread than previously thought? Have many been hidden in plain sight for the past thousand years - incorporated into the fabric of later medieval castles? Such a link has not been drawn before, and yet, if true, could have considerable implications for the way we understand both late Neolithic round mounds and medieval castles.

We should learn more about the Wallingford Castle motte which has been dated between 1050 and 1150.

This talk will be held on Wednesday 10th May, 7.45 for 8pm, at St Mary's Church, Wallingford. Visitors (£4) are most welcome.

For more information, please visit www.twhas.org.uk



Agatha Christie Weekend

The fourth Agatha Christie Weekend will be held throughout Wallingford and Cholsey from Friday 8th to Sunday 10th September.

This is an event which is growing each year and attracts tourists from afar as well as being of interest to local residents.

Volunteers are now planning the events, and anyone will be welcome to support the organising group in making this another successful occasion.

Last year's programme can still be viewed online at: www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk/agatha-christie-weekend

If you would like to be involved, please contact Judy Dewey on 651127 or judy@piepowder.co.uk

To book North Stoke Village Hall
contact Nikki Arnfeld (839736, 07969 788766, narnfeld@yahoo.co.uk) or Stuart Soames (836058, or sjwsoames@btinternet.com)

Chilterns Walking Festival – 15th to 29th May

The inaugural Chilterns Walking Festival includes over 80 walks and events on offer right across the Chilterns – the interactive map on the Walking Festival site shows the start points of all 83 events. There is a huge choice of activity including:

- * Pub walks, meet-the-producer walks and foraging activities
- * Iron Age Hillfort walk followed by an Iron Age feast at a local pub!
- * Wildlife spotting walks, artists walks, and history/heritage walks
- * Guided electric bike tour with a picnic lunch from Henley on Thames, taking in Chiltern Valley Winery & Brewery, Hambleden Valley, Turville and Warburg Nature Reserve
- * Expert-led wild medicine walk around The Sunnyside Trust's Hemel Food Garden, discovering which plants can be used for medicinal purposes
- * Take the train for a walk: starting from Princes Risborough station, journey together to Haddenham, and walk back to Princes Risborough
- * Take the boat one way with Hobbs of Henley, enjoy a guided walk back along the Thames Path
- * Gruffalo spotters' trail where the characters come to life in Wendover Woods
- * Nordic Walking and Health Walks.

Full details are on the website: www.visitchilterns.co.uk/walkingfest

Music at St Peter's, 2017

The 32nd season of Music at St Peter's, Wallingford, starts on Saturday 13th May with the Sacconi String Quartet, an established favourite with St Peter's audiences - they have been here every year since 2005, sometimes giving more than one concert! In addition to playing as a string quartet, they have also brought other musicians with them for larger-scale works, such as Mendelssohn's Octet last year. This year they have a second viola player and their programme includes Beethoven's Lyrical String Quintet as well as quartets by Haydn and Schubert ("Death and the Maiden").

The season continues until September with nine concerts in all. The second concert is on Saturday 27th May with baroque vocal and instrumental ensemble Ceruleo performing love duets by Purcell and Monteverdi (in his 450th anniversary year) and by Barbara Strozzi, a 17th-century Venetian composer who was the first woman to have her music published.

Later in the year there's a viola and piano recital, a song recital with music by Beethoven and Schubert, a violin recital, another string quartet, a solo pianist, a piano quartet (expanded with a double bass for Schubert's "Trout" Quintet), and the season ends with the locally-based Thames Consort giving an all-Bach programme of choral music and concertos for violin and oboe. So it's a rich and varied mixture with both familiar and less well-known music to charm the ear!

You can pick up a fully detailed brochure with dates and information about tickets etc from Wallingford Information Centre in the Market Place, or phone me on 825421 and I'll be delighted to post one to you.

All concerts are on Saturdays at 8pm and tickets are £13 if bought in advance (from Just Trading at 17 St Mary's Street, Wallingford) or ordered through the form in the brochure. Or you can buy them on the door at £15 or order them online through the website, which is www.musicatstpeterswallingford.org.uk.

Season tickets are available at £80 for all nine concerts. If you've never been to one of our concerts, we have a First Timers Free scheme which means you can try them out free of charge - details of how to book are in the brochure. People between 8 and 25 years of age can attend free of charge and do not need to book.

I look forward to welcoming you to the concerts!

Glynne Stackhouse
Chairman (Tel: 825421)

For details of walks with Didcot & Wallingford
Ramblers, please see
www.ramblers.org.uk/didcot-wallingford

Wallingford Area Artweeks

Local artists will be exhibiting during the South Oxfordshire Artweeks, which this year run from 6th to 14th May. Pick up an Artweeks Guide and the Wallingford Area Artweeks Trail Map to plan your visits.

There are more than 30 artists exhibiting at open studio events throughout the Wallingford area with several new artists exhibiting for the first time, alongside well-established groups such as Ewelme Pottery and The Sylva Foundation in Long Wittenham. Some are offering workshop events. All work is for sale and often you can commission artwork too.

Relaxed CTC Bike Rides: dates for your diary

CTC Wallingford will be offering some relaxed taster rides this spring and summer. These will take place at 1.30pm on Sunday 7th May and Sunday 2nd July, both starting from the Market Place.

The rides will be at a gentle pace, with no big hills. We will aim to cover 10 to 15 miles, with a stop at a cafe.

The rides are suitable for families and for those who don't feel too confident or who haven't ridden their bikes for a while. There will always be an experienced CTC rider at the front and the rear of the group and the pace will be as gentle as is required.

Alison Smart

Wallingford U3A

Our April speaker, Dr Jill Evers, talked about "The Grave Trade", changing and recurring fashions in burial practices through the ages.

Modern scientific techniques are giving us more and more accurate information, but there is lots we still don't understand. Who were the 97 little newborn corpses buried together near Henley? Why? Very early man probably laid their dead to rest in quiet, magical woodland, but Neanderthal people put their dead in caves. Neolithic Man used burial chambers and constructed long barrows: the Egyptians

mummified their rich and famous. The Romans invented coffins, and our coffins and grave stones are very like theirs. The Vikings buried their dead in or near water, or cremated them. Christianity disapproved of cremation, but we now accept it again. The Victorians favoured sombre black horse-drawn carriages, that are becoming popular again. And quiet woodland burials are also becoming more common.

Dr Evers asked whether funerals are for the living or the dead? Who knows? But we can relate to the CroMagnon people who buried a 16 year old who had died in childbirth. Her baby was carefully wrapped and buried in her arms.

The audience was so enthused by the talk that Chairman, Jim Fisk, had a bit of difficulty in stopping questions before tea began to get cold.

Holiday: Five days from 13th July. A cancellation means there is space on this holiday to Shropshire. We are staying at a 4-star Telford hotel and have a varied programme of visits planned. Our holidays are very cheerful and friendly, with a good mix of couples and singles.

Outing: Tuesday 16th May, to the RHS garden at Wisley. May has to be the best time to go to one of the world's great gardens. The cafes are good too!

For more details about outings and about the holiday, please phone Eileen on 825156.

Speakers: 3rd May, Robin Oakley, the well known Political Editor at the BBC, and European Editor at CNN will speak on "How Personality has taken over Politics".

7th June, Tony Hadland on "The Turbulent Lifetime of Thomas Vachell".

Our meetings are held at 2pm on the first Wednesday of each month at Crowmarsh Village Hall. Visitors are always made welcome. Talk, tea and company. Come and join us. For more information about what we do, with news and photographs, please visit our website, Google: U3A Wallingford, or phone Hermione on 01865 858064.

Crowmarsh Parish Council News

Chairman: John Griffin, 29 Thames Mead, Crowmarsh Gifford, tel. 838523,
email: johngriffin@phonecoop.coop
Parish Clerk: Sue Rance, 2 Home Farm, Crowmarsh Gifford
Website: <http://www.crowmarshgifford.org.uk/index.php>

Notes of the Parish Council Meeting at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall on Thursday 6th April 2017

Present: Councillors John Griffin (Chair), Stephen Sherbourne, Nigel Hannigan, Ann Sharp, Fleur Stevenson, Stuart Soames, Andrew Johnson, David Rowley, Denise Hall and David Topliss. Plus Sue Rance (Clerk) and Yvonne Peet (Finance Officer).

Cllr Francesca Jones was representing the council at a meeting about a cycle race on 16th July (see Traffic & Transport) and attended at the end.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr David Mannering and County Cllr Mark Gray. Three members of the public attended to talk about planning.

The meeting was preceded by a presentation on the proposals to develop land at Newnham Manor for 100 houses (P16/S3852/FUL) and the applicants and Oxfordshire Highways were questioned about the proposed junction on the A4074. The application is expected to go to the SODC Planning Committee in May.

Finance

Payments were agreed, including a £70 subscription to Oxfordshire Community First (formerly known as Oxfordshire Rural Community Council) who advise parishes on community matters including neighbourhood planning (see under Planning).

Grants were agreed to South and Vale Citizens' Advice (£250) and to North Stoke Parochial Church Council (£990) towards grass cutting in the churchyard and pound.

The Council's publications scheme was reviewed and approved with some minor updating. This lists what information we publish and how the public can obtain it.

Planning

Decisions: The Council noted the following decisions from SODC:

P16/S3665/O (Outline): Erection of up to 80 dwellings including affordable housing (40%), along with the provision of open space, community hall, enhanced facilities including sports pitch and car parking for Crowmarsh Gifford Primary School. New vehicular access from Old Reading Road. Land to the west of Old Reading Road, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8EN.
PERMISSION REFUSED.

P17/S0215LB (Listed Building): Replace porch as original. Kimberley, The Street, North Stoke OX10 6BL.
PERMISSION GRANTED.

P17/S0435/HH (Householder): New porch to front elevation. 28 Park View, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8BL.
PERMISSION GRANTED.

P17/S0448/HH: Garage building with storage, home office and guest bedroom/bathroom. Larkrise, Mongewell OX10 8BP.
PERMISSION GRANTED.

Applications: The Council agreed its response to SODC on the following applications:

P17/S0915/HH: Detached garage, carport and stores with loft room above. 2 Wallingford Road, North Stoke (in the parish of Crowmarsh), OX10 6BD.
NO STRONG VIEWS.

P17/S1011/FUL (Full Application): Replacement and redevelopment of kennel blocks (phase 3 of the kennel redevelopment). Avalon Kennels, Icknield Way, Benson (in Crowmarsh parish) OX10 6PP.
RECOMMEND APPROVAL.

P17/S1168/O: Four dwellings (2 pairs of semi-

detached) with access, parking and gardens. Land east of 206 Crowmarsh Hill, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8BG.
RECOMMEND APPROVAL.

P17/S1238/FUL & P17/S1239/LB: Installation of new gas supply pipework, new condensing gas boilers and gas flue to The Manor House, HR Wallingford Ltd, Howbery Park, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8BA.
RECOMMEND APPROVAL.

[Cllr Stevenson declared an interest as an employee at Howbery Park and took no part].

SODC Planning Committee meeting, 29th March

The Chairman and the Chair of Planning attended the South Oxfordshire District Council Planning Committee meeting at Didcot Civic Hall on 29th March. The Committee considered application P16/S3608/O: Outline planning application for up to 150 dwellings together with associated access, public open space, landscaping and amenity areas: land to the east of Benson Lane, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8ED. The planning officer had recommended approval, but after a full discussion, the Councillors voted unanimously to refuse the application.

South Oxfordshire District Council Local Plan

SODC have now published the latest draft of their Local Plan for public comment (until 5pm on 17th May). This plan will set out the scale and distribution of new development up to 2033. As part of this they are exploring the level of development they consider appropriate in the market towns and larger villages over the next 16 years.

As we do not have a Neighbourhood Development Plan, SODC has proposed two site allocations for housing in Crowmarsh Gifford on our behalf to help deliver the expected housing requirement (see pages 66-67 of the draft plan).

One site (Policy H8, page 66) is land to the east of Benson Lane, expected to deliver a residential development of approximately 150 dwellings, representing an extension to the existing community, including relevant land-

scaping to minimise the impact on the Chilterns AONB. This is the same as the application refused at Planning Committee on 29th March (P16/S3608/O).

The other site (Policy H9, page 67) is land to the south of Newnham Manor: a residential development of approximately 100 dwellings, representing an extension to the existing community, with a new parking area to meet the needs of Crowmarsh Gifford C of E Primary School. There is a current planning application for 100 houses on this site, with access off the A4074 (P16/S3852/FUL, see discussion above).

It was resolved that the Parish Council will make representations to SODC to have the land to the east of Benson Lane, where permission has now been refused, removed from the Draft Local Plan. Local residents are encouraged to send in comments on the draft of the Local Plan, particularly on this site and the other allocation. (See article on page 3).

Neighbourhood Plan

Following the planning committee meeting on 29th March and the attempt by the district council to include sites into the draft Local Plan on the Council's behalf, Crowmarsh Parish Council has resolved to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish.

A grant from SODC will be sought and a working party / steering group will be set up. We will need to engage the entire community to make a plan that best suits the whole of the parish. Volunteers will be needed to help with this over 18 months to 2 years and it will be discussed at the Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 18th May at Crowmarsh Gifford Primary School, starting at 7.30pm, so please come to that if you can.

Environment and Recreation Committee

Cllr Johnson reported that new laminated signs are now in place at the Recreation Ground. One quote has been received for LED lighting at the Pavilion (approx. £600) which should result in significant savings in the long term.

A site visit to the nature area for all councillors

is planned for the summer. It is planned to continue spraying the nettles but to consider other ways of dealing with them in future.

The new sub-committee for the playground project will meet on 20th April at the home of Cllr Johnson, starting at 7.30pm. Chalgrove and Watlington Parish Councils will be asked for advice on fundraising and contractor. Two quotes have been received and a third is expected. Cllr Rowley has details of good examples of playgrounds in other areas and community consultation that can help in obtaining grant funding.

There has been a resurgence in bookings for football recently.

Cllr Hall reported on the problem of dog fouling and will investigate the purchase of more signs and the legal requirements involved.

Traffic and Transport Committee

Cllr Francesca Jones had represented the council at a meeting about a national road cycle race on 16th July. North Stoke is on the main route as are Cox's Lane and Park View, and short-term road closures are planned in and around the parish. Details will be reported when they are known.

Correspondence

Cllrs Rowley, Hall and Sharp will represent the Parish Council at the annual RAF Benson reception on Thursday 25th May.

Other business

- Cllr Soames reported that tree work is needed at North Stoke Village Hall and a grant may be requested from the Parish Council towards the £640 cost.
- Cllr Sharp reported that Berinsfield Community Business planned to cut the grass at the recreation ground on 7th April and the verges would be cut in the next week.
- Cllr Rowley recommended that sustainability should be a priority as part of any Parish Council project.

Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 11th May, at North Stoke Village Hall, starting

at 7.30pm. This is the Parish Council's Annual Meeting where councillors will elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman for 2017-18. As usual, all are welcome.

The Annual Parish Meeting for all electors will be held on Thursday 18th May at Crowmarsh Gifford Primary School, starting at 7.30pm. Mark Dickinson of Thames Water will be invited, plus the local neighbourhood police team. Cllr Soames suggested we also invite a representative of the traffic police to discuss speeding in North Stoke as well as the A4074 and The Street in Crowmarsh Gifford.

Cllr Johnson will give a presentation on the play area project. There will be an introduction to the Neighbourhood Plan for the parish and a call for people to get involved. The Clerk will provide tea/coffee and biscuits.

Wallingford and District Stroke Club

Wallingford and District Stroke Club meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at Crowmarsh Village Hall for activities and companionship, tea and cake. In the summer months we arrange outings, both locally and further afield, using the Wallingford Coach with its accessible platform.

We'd love to welcome more members (fees are very reasonable at £2 per month). If you, or someone you know, would like to join us – or just give us a try – please contact Norman Goodall on 01235 834503 or Nigel Hessey on 01491 651114 and we'll be pleased to talk to you.

Sue Ryder – Sale Dates

The next Sale of Donated Goods is on Saturday 20th May. It will run from 10.30am to 12.30pm. Saleable donated goods are welcomed on week days between 9am and 4.30pm, but we are unable to accept goods on Sale Day or the day before.

Volunteers are always needed to select and allocate donated goods and to assist with Sales. The Sue Ryder Nettlebed Hospice is at Henley on Thames, RG9 5DF. Please call 01491 641384 ext 246 for further information or details.

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WHAT'S ON – MAY 2017

Regular events and meetings

Every Tuesday	19.00-21.30	Short Mat Bowls	Crowmarsh Pavilion
Every Thursday	14.00-16.30	Short Mat Bowls	Crowmarsh Pavilion
Every Thursday	19.45-22.00	Wallingford Photographic Club	Crowmarsh Pavilion
Every Friday	08.30-11.15	Wallingford Country Market	Regal Centre
Every Saturday	10.00-12.00	WAGS Store open	Centre 70
Most Saturdays	10.00-13.00	Local Producers' Market	Regal Centre

This month

Monday 1st	All day	Bank holiday trains	Cholsey and Wallingford Railway
Wednesday 3rd	14.00	U3A: Robin Oakley, Personality and Politics	Crowmarsh Village Hall
Thursday 4th	07.00 - 22.00	County Council Elections	Crowmarsh Village Hall and North Stoke Village Hall
Thursday 11th	19.30	Crowmarsh Parish Council Meeting	North Stoke Village Hall
Sunday 7th	All day	Wallingford Vehicle Rally and Parade	Kinecroft and Town Centre
Sunday 7th	13.30	CTC 20-something mile road ride	Meet Wallingford Market Place
Saturday 13th	19.30	Sacconi String Quartet	St Peter's Church
Wednesday 10th	19.30	Henley Philatelic: Dane Garrod, Royalty	Bix Village Hall
Wednesday 10th	19.45	TWHAS talk: The Round Mounds project	St Mary's Church, Wallingford
Saturday 13th & Sunday 14th	All day	SO Food Festival	Bridge Villa Camp site, Crowmarsh Gifford
Wednesday 17th	17.00	Deadline for comments on SODC Local Plan	See article on page 3
Thursday 18th	19.30	Annual Parish Meeting for all electors	Crowmarsh Gifford Primary School
Friday 19th	Evening	A night at the Museum	Wallingford Museum
Saturday 20th	10.30	Sue Ryder Sale	Nettlebed
Sunday 21st	09.00	Wallingford Thames Run (5 and 10k Starts 10.00)	Crowmarsh School
Tuesday 23rd	19.30	Wallingford Science Exchange: Nuclear Fusion	Wallingford School Library
Wednesday 24th	19.30	Henley Philatelic: AGM and 5 pages on EU Country	Bix Village Hall
Saturday 27th May	19.30	Ceruleo Concert	St Peter's Church
Saturday 27th May	Evening	Fish and chip supper on the railway	Cholsey and Wallingford Railway
Sunday 28th & Monday 29th	All day	Guinness weekend on the railway	Cholsey and Wallingford Railway